

2559

**Kathy Cooper**

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**From:** Harriet Hacker [hatboxpress@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, March 16, 2007 8:14 PM  
**To:** IRRC  
**Subject:** Dog Law Regulations

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Dear Sir,

I had the pleasure of watching the New Dog Law Regulations committee hearings on PCN some days ago. I watched with great attention and was pleased to see the willingness of the committee members to wrap their collective minds around this very serious problem. I will admit, however, that there seemed to be a real gap of understanding for some of the committee members as to what a puppy mill really does. Large scale kennels serve one purpose, to bred for profit without care or consideration to the animals or the potential owners. The sheer fact that we have a lemon law for animals bought in this state should really speak volumes about what the consumer public really thinks about Pennsylvania and it's breeding practices. I would encourage committee members to pay surprise visits to the kennels in question.

This bill is about action and taking responsibility for the things that we create. To hear a breeder use the phrase "cash crop" in regards to dogs he breeds simply signals to me that there are people in power that do not belong there. How sad have we become that everything has to be for profit. Pets are exactly that...pets, companions. Small breeders argue that they will suffer, and yes some of them will. I agree to compromise, but not if the compromise doesn't cure the larger problems in the larger breeding kennels. Additionally, it is unfair to target vets to be guardians in this industry...they have enough to deal with and it's time the government gets their hands a little dirty in order to deal with breeders that employ unfair and inhumane treatment of defenseless animals.

In the end, the way you treat an animal is an example of your humanity and your humility. I urge you to push forward the elements of this bill that are fair and just and...put the pets welfare ahead of the almighty dollar. This thing that you can do will make the difference in the quality of life for not only the pets, but the future owners of those pets.

Thank you for your time and consideration.  
Sincerely,  
Harriet Hacker, MFA

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